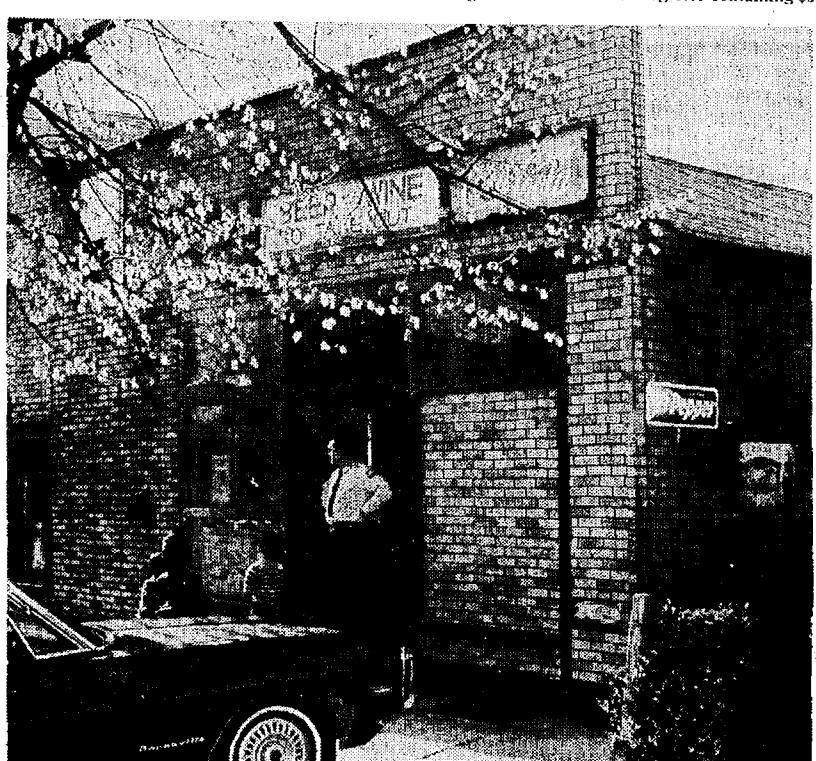




SAM BAUM
Slain Grocer



VIOLENCE AMONG THE BLOSSOMS: A bright spring day in Benton Harbor was shattered by gun fire Monday afternoon when Sam Baum, operator of this grocery at 21 Riford street, was killed. (Staff photo)

Probe Creeps Closer

Watergate Mud On Nixon's Shoes?

By BROOKS JACKSON
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Watergate scandal continues to boil after fresh reports of evidence that the White House tried to cover up the facts behind the wiretapping.

There were these new developments:

Sources close to the Senate's Watergate investigation said President Nixon surely was aware of a coverup, and that evidence indicates top presidential aides H.R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman participated in the

coverup.

A lawyer for Nixon's campaign finance committee gave court officials three cartons of secret campaign spending records which had been withheld in apparent violation of an agreement to furnish them last November. He said they include payroll records containing the names of two of the Watergate conspirators.

Transcripts of testimony before the Watergate grand jury quoted convicted wiretapper James W. McCord Jr. as saying under oath that he had been offered executive clemency if he

would remain silent about the conspiracy and serve more than a year in jail.

White House spokesman Gerald Warren again denied that Nixon had advance knowledge of plans for wiretapping Democratic headquarters last June.

The Senate sources Monday declined to go into detail about evidence of a coverup, but said the operation included "attempts to pressure other officials in the government to go along."

The sources said these other

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 6)

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During the testimony, Judge Fox said that firing employees when inflation is "at its highest" can be construed as capital punishment. "What about their mortgage payments, their refrigerator and car payments" and emergencies?" he said.

If the college made a proposal after fact finding to withdraw

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 1)

SJ Mailmen Claim Muzzling

The vice president of the St. Joseph letter carriers union issued a statement Monday saying the local president has been told to stop protesting transfer of personnel from St. Joseph to the Benton Harbor post office.

Arthur Crossman, vice president of Local 653, said: "Our president (Mr. Lee Nover) has been advised not to make anymore statements in order to hold his job."

"We are sorry that the whole

truth cannot come out, but we must keep in line to protect our jobs."

Crossman thanked St. Joseph residents for their support in trying to prevent reduction of personnel at the St. Joseph post office. "Hoping this will explain why you haven't heard from us before," he concluded.

In other developments in the announced pending transfer of 39 of 52 St. Joseph postal workers, St. Joseph Mayor

Franklin H. Smith said he and banker John Stubblefield had been invited to confer this afternoon with a postal official.

Smith said the invitation came from Loren C. Glover, mail processing representative for the Postal Service's Grand Rapids district office.

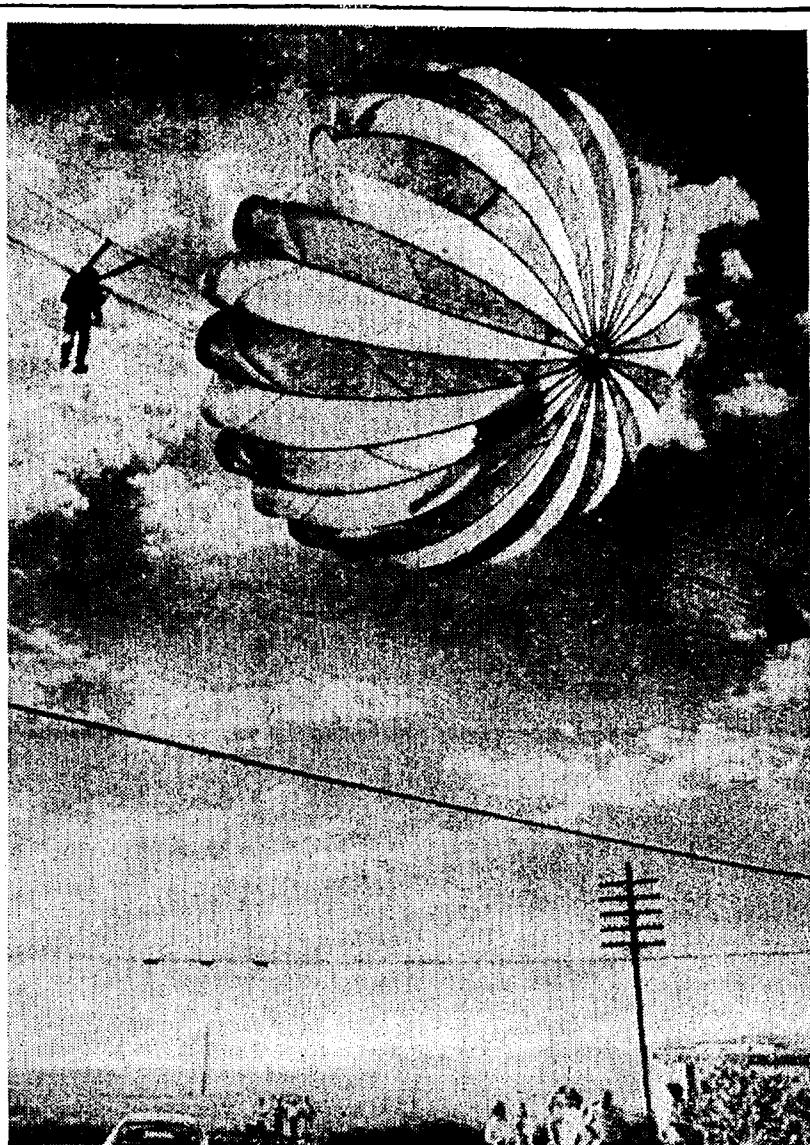
It was Glover who confirmed April 5 that the transfer would be made within 45 to 60 days. Reasons cited were overcrowding in the St. Joseph office. The

transferred employees would remain under direction of the St. Joseph postmaster.

Smith said he assumed Glover extended the invitation because both he and Stubblefield are highly opposed to the shift of personnel. The St. Joseph city commission has gone on record against it and Local President Nover has called for a block-by-block petition campaign.

The St. Joseph Business division of merchants at its regular meeting last week distributed letters to members to be sent to Michigan's U.S. senators and Fourth District congressman opposing the transfer.

Local President Nover has charged the shift will slow delivery of mail in St. Joseph by as much as two days. All St. Joseph mail carriers and all of the office's rolling stock would be transferred under the original announcement.



DEATH ON THE WIND: A skydiver, Steven John Campbell, 24, of Los Angeles, dangles in death from 12,000-volt power lines near Lake Elsinore, Calif., Sunday, after a strong wind blew him on to the lines. Officials said he died instantly. (AP Wirephoto)

Judge Ponders Decision On LMC

BY BILL RUSH
Staff Writer

The Lake Michigan college Federation of Teacher's request for reinstatement of fired faculty members was taken under advisement Monday by U.S. District Judge Noel Fox in Grand Rapids.

Also taken under advisement were a request by the union to postpone termination hearings until teachers have been reinstated, and a motion by the college to have the case referred to a three-judge federal district court panel. Judge Fox indicated he would render a decision in the near future.

Representatives from the union, college and state mediation board met in conference with Judge Fox during the day followed by a nearly three-hour court hearing that ended after 7 p.m.

The Baum family had operated the grocery on Riford for about 35 years. The area, formerly known as Little Brooklyn, became a black neighborhood in the 1960's.

Baum was the second businessman to be murdered in the Little Brooklyn area in the past nine months. A tavern owner, Leonid Sakovski, was shot to death last July by an irate patron at Lenny's Brooklyn tavern, 379 Territorial road.

Sam Baum's father had previously been in the grocery business on Territorial. When he died, his widow, Eva, opened the Riford grocery.

Sam Baum joined in operation

Damage Is Extensive

Williamsburg Looks Like A Ghost Town

By QUANE KENYON
Associated Press Writer

WILLIAMSBURG, Mich.

(AP) — Walking through gas-filled Williamsburg is like being in a ghost town.

Doors are open. Windows are raised. Clothes flap on a line behind an empty house.

This village of 200 persons is deserted because of a sudden plague of natural gas eruptions.

Since Wednesday, natural gas has broken through the ground in hundreds of places and filled a mile-square area with gas fumes.

"We first told 'em it would be at least a week before they could

get back," said Traverse County Sheriff Richard Weiler. "Now we're talking at least two weeks."

But other officials said it may be several months before life gets back to normal in Williamsburg. Virtually every structure in the village is over or near one of the many blowholes caused by gas eruptions.

Extensive damage already has been caused in the village. One blowhole erupted near the village Town Hall, seriously undermining the structure, built in 1889. Another is eating away Michigan 72, and the highway

doubtless will have to be rebuilt.

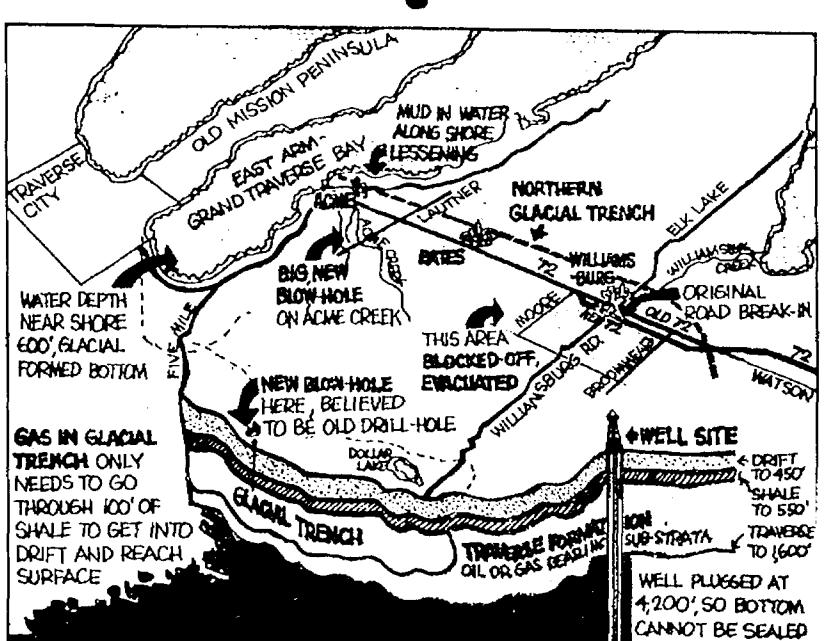
Several neatly trimmed front lawns in the village now feature ugly mud basins as much as 10 feet across and more than five feet deep.

In one house, newsmen could hear a steady hiss as if someone had left a gas line turned on.

Ironically, until last Wednesday's eruptions, there was no natural gas service in Williamsburg. Residents used propane oil or electric heat.

The perimeter of the deserted village was heavily patrolled, both to keep out looters and to

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 7)



GAS LEVEL CLIMBS: This is an artist's conception drawn by Detroit Free Press artist Dick Mayer showing two glacial trenches, one running westward on a line north of Williamsburg, the other following a similar path south of Williamsburg. The southerly trench shows the underground strata through which it is believed the gas is escaping to the surface, causing the blowholes or geysers which threaten the area. Ten more families evacuated their homes as safety precautions Monday. (AP Wirephoto)

THE HERALD-PRESS

Editorial Page

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher
Bert Lindenfeld, Managing Editor

The Very Vexing Problem Of School Tax 'Equality'

Almost everyone supports equal opportunity in public education — in principle. Far fewer are willing to pay the price of providing it, as the long struggle over school desegregation amply demonstrates.

Now the stress has shifted from racial to fiscal inequality in the public schools, and the battle rages as before. When the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its landmark school desegregation decision in 1954, it asserted that "The opportunity of an education... must be made available to all on equal terms."

In the same spirit, the California Supreme Court held in 1971 that the state's system of financing public schools largely through local property taxes violated the 14th Amendment's equal-protection clause. The court noted that affluent areas were able to finance good schools, while poor ones could not. It thus concluded that "Education may not be a function of wealth, except the wealth of the state as a whole."

Civil libertarians were convinced that a case like that in California eventually would reach the U.S. Supreme Court, and they were right. The court agreed to review a suit brought by Demetrio P. Rodriguez, a Mexican-American civil service worker from San Antonio, Texas. "Rodriguez is the best school case in the country," said David Long of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. "Real people in a real school district, members of a minority group, getting screwed by the state."

Long's optimism was misplaced. In its opinion in the Rodriguez case, handed down on March 21, the Supreme Court ruled that state laws for financing public services should not be declared unconstitutional "merely because the burdens or benefits thereof fall unevenly, depending upon the relative wealth of the political subdivisions in which citizens live."

The net effect of the Rodriguez decision was to leave the matter of

public-school financing in the hands of the states. Many, perhaps most, will continue to rely on locally levied property taxes. In recent years, Michigan has depended roughly 50 per cent on local property taxes, 50 per cent on revenues collected and dispersed by the state.

Now, under orders from the State Supreme Court, the Michigan Legislature is trying to come up with a school tax package that will wipe out the worst inequities among "rich" and "poor" districts. Gov. Milliken has put an equalizer measure through the Senate, and its chance of House passage appears good.

Other states, however, appear ready to abandon local property taxes for school financing. Foremost is Oregon. Under a plan approved by the Oregon legislature in March, the state government would assume virtually all public-school operating costs. The measure will be voted upon by the people of Oregon in a special referendum May 1.

The Oregon plan calls for virtual elimination of local residential property taxes for schools and provides for the state to pay 95 per cent of operating expenses. The money would come from a 32 per cent increase in personal income taxes, higher corporate taxes, a business-profits tax, and a statewide tax on income-producing property.

The school-financing debate involves more than just educational quality. Property values tend to be low in a city such as Jersey City because property tax rates are high. And property values are high in suburban Milburn, N.J., partly because rates are low. Thus, any move to equalize tax rates might have a similar effect on market values. Moreover, many parents fear that state funding of public schools will lead to loss of local control and general leveling-down of educational standards. Supporters of fairer school financing will have to convince these skeptics that equity is not a synonym for mediocrity.



GLANCING BACKWARDS

SJ CITY BUDGET UP 9.9 PERCENT

— 1 Year Ago —

A tentative city budget of \$2,486,899 for the 1972-73 fiscal year, representing an increase of \$224,027 or 9.9 per cent, was accepted Monday night by the St. Joseph city commission.

It is the biggest increase in at least the last six years, but the budget still will not require any increase in the property tax

millage and without any general hike in property valuations.

SALES UP AT WHIRLPOOL

— 10 Years Ago —

Reports from Whirlpool corporation's annual meeting of stockholders held yesterday at Chicago confirmed rumors that the company would experience an excellent first quarter this year.

Sales for the first three months rose 22.4 per cent over the corresponding period in 1962 and net earnings jumped 33.4 per cent. John H. Platts, president, said a stabilizing of prices in the appliance industry, the best experienced since 1959, played a major role in the good showing.

HIT GERMANY AND ROMANIA

— 29 Years Ago —

Around 3,000 American planes attacked the southwest German aircraft centers of Friedrichshafen and Munich and the Romanian traffic hubs of Bucharest and Ploesti and the Romanian traffic hubs of Bucharest and Ploesti today in coordinated assaults from Britain and Italy.

An aircraft factory at Belgrade in Yugoslavia also was bombed. The coordinated attack was described as the heaviest of the war.

MORE ENTRIES

— 39 Years Ago —

Eleven more entries have been received for the Nite o' Nite parade, and more than a hundred are expected from the two towns.

TO SAIL SOON

— 49 Years Ago —

Mrs. E.C. Shepard of the Shepard & Benning company will sail on the S.S. Olympic on May 3 for a six weeks' stay in Paris, France.

NEW EQUIPMENT

— 59 Years Ago —

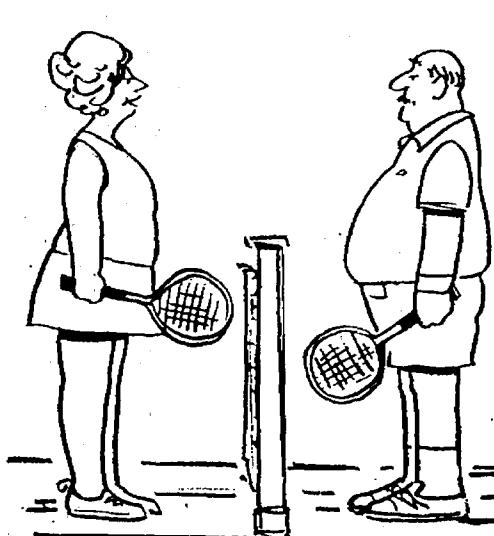
J. P. Rawlings installed a new coffee grinder and pulverizer in his store on State street.

COMPLETE PLANKING

— 83 Years Ago —

The planking on Wayne street hill has been completed. It is a much-traveled thoroughfare today, where a week ago a man was likely to lose the buckles off his harness or the buttons off his coat.

BERRY'S WORLD



"O.K., Stan Smith, get ready! You're up against Chris Evert today!"

Bruce Biosai

Exports To Japan On Upward Spiral



Hence the pressure to produce favorable news.

Stories pouring out of Tokyo, usually lost in the business pages, stress Japan's continuing moves to liberalize trade with America and others. New cuts on its import quotas have been announced, and tariffs are down.

Actually, Japan's tariffs are no longer a key obstacle. Cuts running to 20 per cent are not expected to contribute much to improving the export-import balances. And Tokyo now has import quotas on only 33 items, fewer than there are in France or West Germany.

The rub is that all but nine of these items are agricultural products, some of which, like oranges, the United States would like to sell in the Japanese market. And among the nine nonfarm items are computers, a field in which we have a big competitive edge but also one Tokyo is trying hard to develop at home.

The respected British journal, The Economist, notes also that around 60 per cent of Japan's imports inevitably consist of fuel and raw materials. Since that country's steady growth increases the demand for those essentials, changes in tariffs and quotas seem unlikely to have too much effect toward altering the character of Japan's imports from us and others.

POW Torture

Not Surprising



Berrigan brothers, Ramsey Clark, Jane Fonda, Tom Hayden, Mary McCarthy, Cora Weiss, Susan Sontag, and Dave Dellinger.

Ramsey Clark is typical. He took a quick trip to Hanoi, visited the "Hanoi Hilton" POW camp — though not its notorious "Room 18" — and saw a few carefully selected and supervised POWs. Whereupon he burst into song. The treatment the POWs were receiving was humane and civilized, they were in marvelous shape, etc. And Clark is only one of a long parade of such flacks — visiting Hanoi, rushing home and into print with articles and books, cashing-in in a big way, hitting the campus lecture circuit and salting away top fees, bringing the news of the noble North to agog student audiences. Uncle Ho, the George Washington of his country, as George McGovern used to call him.

The imperial Japanese — could anyone forget? — behaved despicably to our POWs. The Kuomintang and the Communist Chinese were equally brutal. Nor need anyone have any illusions about the South Vietnamese. On strategic grounds, I consider that the communication of Southeast Asia would be a disaster, but this does not mean that I am under any illusions about life in Saigon's jails and prison camps.

The torture revelations do, however, shed a good deal of light on those who have been presenting themselves as the keepers of our conscience, zooming off on "night-flights to Hanoi" and returning with hymns of praise to the courteous little brown men they met there and in the rice-paddies, so gentle, so wise. To put it bluntly, these people have been flacking for tortures: the

If you want a laugh, take a look at the Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars, a Maoist organ which is the academic version of the flacking operation noted above. All those noble Communists, so different from the corrupt Thieu, the corrupt Marcos, etc. The most recent issue includes some rather sentimental Communist poems, one by old Ho himself.

As a matter of fact, even in the context of the history of torture, the North Vietnamese approach seems rather far out.

Col. Risner spent four years in solitary confinement. Col. Cherry, a black, was tortured for three months, was beaten five times a day, and spent 92 days in ropes and irons. We hear the grisly details of the rope-torture and the "jumbo irons," which caused feet to swell up like "elephant feet with little knobs as toes." Prisoners were tied on ant hills. A broken arm was worked up and down "like a pump."

Compared with the North Vietnamese, the Greek colonels look like YMCA desk clerks.

"No American," writes liberal columnist Harriet Van Horne,

"can read Major Floyd

Kushner's account of life in a

Viet Cong prison camp and not be shocked with pity — and rage.

Dachau, Auschwitz, and the

feloulest prisons of our Civil War

were not as vile — incredible as it seems — as the V.C. camps."

Tell us more, Ramsey. Let's

hear from you, Dan and Phil

and Susan and Mary, and you

Concerned Asian Scholars.

Deep Sea Oil Rush

The great North Sea oil rush is on. Beneath this harsh and stormy body of water lie gas and oil deposits greater than anyone had imagined. The recent discoveries off the coast of Scotland have been described as the most important of their kind for Britain in 200 years.

The timing and location of the North Sea find could hardly have been better. Oil has been discovered on Britain's doorstep at a time when energy prices have begun to soar. Last year, the country imported more than \$2.5 billion worth of oil. The government estimates that North Sea oil will bring a \$1.5 billion improvement in Britain's balance of payments by 1980.

So far, around 250 test wells have been drilled in British territorial waters, leading to the discovery of a dozen commercial gas fields and an equal number of large oil reservoirs. The Forties Field alone is estimated to contain recoverable reserves of two billion barrels. Thirty oil rigs are now operating in the British sector of the North Sea, and three dozen ships may be engaged in drilling this summer.

No oil has been extracted commercially to date. The initial flow will

begin in the middle of next year, and by 1975 a production capacity of one million barrels a day is expected. The impact of exploration already is being felt. Enough gas has been found to quadruple the size of Britain's gas industry and more than double consumption by 1975.

Because of the great depth of the North Sea, to say nothing of the gales that frequently sweep across it, the drilling operation is both costly and risky. Rigs costing \$25 million each have been broken up by the winter storms. The capital cost of extracting oil from the North Sea is at least 20 times greater than that of on-shore installations in the Middle East.

British Petroleum took out a \$900 million bank loan last September to finance development of its Forties Field, 115 miles from the Scottish coast. The Shell/Essco group plans to spend \$1.5 billion on exploitation of the Brent and Cormorant fields.

The logistical problems involved in recovery of the North Sea's riches are formidable. Most of the fields are at least 100 miles from the coast and more than 200 miles from the nearest refinery. In addition, the deep water hampers pipeline construction and storms make shipping unfeasible one day out of every five. To sidestep these obstacles, Phillips Petroleum has installed a one-million-barrel concrete storage tank in its drilling area, while Shell is considering development of a floating storage facility for the Brent Field.

Euphoria about the North Sea's promise is tempered by charges that too much of the drilling is being done by American subcontractors. U.S. companies have constructed an installed most of the drilling platforms, and barges operated by American concerns have laid much of the underwater pipeline.

"Britain has permitted Americans to dominate the industry," fumed the Sunday Times of London, to such an extent that "much of the balance of payments benefit in fact passes into foreign hands."

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Leary Sentenced

SAN LUIS OBISPO (AP) — Dr. Timothy Leary has been sent to Folsom State Prison to serve from six months to five years for escaping from the California Men's Colony.

Superior Court Judge Richard P. Harris ordered the sentence on Monday and ruled that Leary, 42, must serve the time consecutively with an earlier term of six months to 10 years for marijuana possession.

The treaty attacks individuals, but excludes protection to political groups as per appeasement to the Soviets, thereby exempting those only —

—

THE HERALD-PRESS

ST. JOSEPH, MICH. TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 1973

Twin City
Highlights

SJ Schools Asking Renewal Of 4.3 Mills In June Vote

St. Joseph school district voters will ballot on a 4.3 mill operating levy June 11—the same special operating tax they approved last year—as a result of Board of Education action Monday night.

Voters will also pick a third school board member as a result of the resignation of Arthur Franzen submitted following reassignment by his employer, Whirlpool Corp. The reassignment will cause Franzen to move out of the school district. His resignation was immediately accepted.

William C. Rohn, immediate past president of the citizens advisory council, was named to serve to June 30. Rohn said he doubts if he will be a candidate.

Previously the two incumbents, Dr. Dean K. Ray and Douglas Burr, announced they would not be candidates for reelection. So far only one candidate, Mrs. Frank V. Z. (Beverly) Linn, has filed.

A third ballot decision was set up when the board approved a building and site tax proposal of 0.35 mills to raise \$42,000 to install kitchens in Washington,

Jefferson and Lincoln elementary schools.

The 4.3 mill operating tax will be for one year. It was approved July 31, 1972 following rejection on a 5.1 mill levy on June 12, 1972. The tax is designed to raise \$526,000 which is almost 12 per cent of the system's \$4.4 million budget.

The decision not to seek a raise in the face of rising costs originally was recommended by the advisory council. They told the board not to add any new programs. The reduction of eight teachers following a drop in enrollment, a \$3 million hike in assessed valuation and other economies will give the district a black ink budget.

The decision to put the kitchen installation on a special ballot stems from the possibility of getting \$27,000 in state funds for kitchen equipment. The proposal will declare the kitchens will be installed specifically at the three elementary schools in St. Joseph.

With kitchens in operation it would be possible to serve hot lunches to children bused in from the country, those that live a distance from school and children whose parents work.

The project is seen as equalizing services already offered in



ARTHUR FRANZEN
Leaving SJ Board

the three rural schools.

The board discussed at length the advantages of remedial reading. No action was taken but Supt. Richard Ziehmier said the program will be continued and possibly expanded if matching funds are available and state aid does not drop.

Franzen, 1801 Niles avenue, St. Joseph, was appointed to the board in 1966 to succeed Don Weiland who moved out of the district. Franzen subsequently won election to the remaining

two years of that term and won a four-year term in 1968 and 1972. There are three years remaining on his term.

Rohn, 56, of 4799 Naomi Lane, St. Joseph, is an engineer, a graduate of St. Joseph High school and Valparaiso university and vice president of Wolverine Metal Stamping Co., North Shore drive, Benton Harbor.

Rohn was attending the meeting in his capacity as a advisory council member when Ray Dumke, vice president of the board spotted him and suggested he fill Franzen's position. If the St. Joseph board did not name a successor to Franzen then the Intermediate school board would name the member.

Rohn said he did not think he would be a candidate for either a full term or Franzen's remaining three years. He said he does not have children in school now and said he thinks candidates with youngsters in school should have priority. Rohn, who has served a number of years on the advisory council, is expected to face a draft for him to run.

Franzen's new assignment was not disclosed since public announcement has not yet been made by Whirlpool Corp.

Coloma Boy, 12, Dies 24 Hours After Accident

COLOMA — A Coloma middle school student died yesterday afternoon about 24 hours after he was involved in a car-truck accident in which he at first indicated he was not injured.

Dead at 3:05 p.m. at South Bend Memorial hospital was Steven Knezevic, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. Milan Knezevic, route 2, US-33, Coloma. The youth was transferred to South Bend from St. Joseph Memorial, where he had been taken earlier in the

day after complaining of head pains, his father reported.

Coroner in South Bend who performed an autopsy reported cause of death was bleeding the brain. He said the boy had a bruise on the right side of his head. "I'm sure death was due to the accident," the coroner said.

Steven was a seventh grade student at Coloma middle school.

The elder Knezevic said this



STEVEN KNEZEVIC
Dies after accident

morning that he and his son were riding in a pickup truck in Rosemont, Ill., about 3 p.m. Sunday when the truck was hit

on the driver's side by a car. At the time of the accident, Steven said he was alright, his father reported.

Steven was born Oct. 29, 1960. Surviving besides his parents is a grandmother, Mrs. Stella



Mercy Board Honors Gideon

For 26 years of service on the board of trustees of Benton Harbor Mercy Hospital, including 10 as president, Leon P. Gideon (left) is presented plaque in recognition of his contributions and leadership. Making presentation is Robert B. Willemin, who last December succeeded Gideon as president. Gideon remains an active member of the board.

The plaque is inscribed with a formal resolution passed by the board in the name of the hospital's entire staff. Presentation was made at Monday's regular board meeting. The resolution states:

"Whereas, Leon P. Gideon has served as a member of the Board of Trustees for Mercy Hospital since 1947, and as president of that Board from December, 1963, to December, 1969, and again from December, 1971, to December, 1972, and

"Whereas, Leon P. Gideon through his wise counsel and guidance, broad vision and

untiring devotion to the interest of Mercy Hospital has contributed greatly to the growth and success of the Hospital, and

"Whereas, this board on its own behalf and on behalf of the Officers, Employees and Medical Staff of Mercy Hospital wishes to acknowledge and recognize Leon P. Gideon's devoted and effective service as President of the Board of Trustees, and his years of service as a member of such Board.

"Now, therefore, be it resolved, that this Board on its own behalf and on behalf of the Officers, Employees and Medical Staff of Mercy Hospital does hereby recognize and acknowledge with sincere gratitude the services Leon P. Gideon rendered the Hospital, and the outstanding contribution those services have made to the growth and success of the Hospital.

"Unanimously Adopted By The Board Of Trustees of Mercy Hospital On December, 1972."

dens.

Memorial rites will be held at

6:45 p.m. Wednesday in the Davidson chapel, Coloma, where friends may call this evening after 7 p.m. today.



TRAFFIC CHECK POINT: State police ran a safety check lane on Eighth street in Benton Harbor Monday, inspecting autos for defective equipment. Lane at left is stopped while troopers go over windshield wipers, brakes, lights and other equipment.

ment. Lane at right moves through after examination of operators' licenses. Equipment checks are on a spot basis because inspection of all cars would snarl traffic. Yesterday's check produced about

seven tickets for violations. One three weeks ago on Britain avenue netted 30. Checks are carried out with cooperation of Benton Harbor police who are training to start similar program. (Staff photo)

First BH Forum Wednesday At Seely McCord

The first in a series of four Benton Harbor community forums will be held Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Seely McCord school.

Speakers will be Raymond Srebo, superintendent of schools; Ben Davis, Model Cities director; Charles Morrison, city manager; Virgil May, city commissioner; Fran Carter, Michigan Bell, Detroit; and Charles Sanders, attention center for youth.

Mayor Charles Joseph said each speaker will make brief

remarks and there will be a question and answer session. He said the forums are to provide grass-root reporting on municipal government, social agencies business and industry. The forums were part of Joseph's campaign platform. They are organized by CharFreJos, a group working for redevelopment of Benton Harbor.

Forums will be held on successive Wednesdays at Sterne, Brunson, Morton and Columbus schools.

"That one of the primary concerns of the City Commission of the City of Benton Harbor is the continuation of quality education for the children of the City of Benton Harbor and the adjacent communities, and

"That a factor in the attainment of quality education is the self-concept of children, and their perception of self-worth, as mirrored by their acceptance from the community in which they live and in which their parents work and rear a family, and

"That this positive self-image is done irreparable harm when they are told, in effect, that their presence in a school system renders that school system undesirable or unworthy of attendance, and the educational process in that school system unacceptable because they share in the process, and

"That to the end that segregation implies and supports theories of superiority and inferiority, worth and lack of worth; the federal and state courts have decreed that segregation is

inherently unconstitutional, violent to the spirit, harmful to the psyche and degrading to the potential of all persons, and

"That any attempt to segregate school children must be strongly opposed with all legal, moral and political efforts. This opposition must begin now and continue until the purveyors of racial isolation are defeated in their attempt to segregate the school district, and

"That this opposition must be undertaken by the City Commission of the City of Benton Harbor and all citizens because the proposed fragmentation most directly and adversely affects the children living and attending school in the inner-city. These children deserve the highest quality of education from the highest caliber educators and under conditions most conducive to both academic and personal growth and development. This is a necessary investment to provide for good citizens and leaders

of the future, and

"That we must repudiate those who endorse the policies of systematic containment on the basis of race. We must repudiate them if they espouse racial separation on the grounds of safety for whites or on the grounds of "nationhood" for blacks, and

"That the City Commission officially supports the concept of a consolidated school district, of an integrated school district, and of administration policies that work toward teaching children to live and learn together with mutual respect, tolerance and understanding, and

"This Commission will cooperate to the extent necessary with other organizations, groups or individuals to insure the fulfillment of the 1954 Supreme Court Decision calling for desegregation of students, faculty and facilities within the Benton Harbor Area Schools district."

BH Commission Opposes School Split-Up

The Benton Harbor city commission by a 7 to 0 vote last night went on record as opposing fragmentation of Benton Harbor Area schools.

The commission's action was in response to the Benton Harbor Area board of education which voted last week not to oppose transfer of part of Sodus township from Benton Harbor Area district to Eau Claire.

The resolution adopted by the city commission said it officially supports the concept of a consolidated, integrated school district and the transfer of Sodus "will promote racial isolation, de jure and de facto segregation . . ."

Mayor Charles F. Joseph presented the resolution. It was moved by Commissioner F. Joseph Flaugh and seconded by Commissioner Bonita Brancumb.

"Be it therefore resolved:

THE HERALD-PRESS

Area
Highlights

ST. JOSEPH, MICH. TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 1973

Three Covert Township Levies Pass Easily

COVERT — A light turnout of Covert township voters approved renewal of three property tax millage levies for financing of police, ambulance service and a road improvement program yesterday.

Township Clerk F. B. Hoffacker said 259 of the township's 1,511 registered voters cast ballots. According to the clerk, 46 were absentee ballots. One was spoiled.

Hoffacker said the votes will be submitted today to the county

elections board for canvassing.

Tabulations compiled by township election workers showed the three-quarter mill police levy passing 207 to 43; the one-quarter mill ambulance levy being approved, 232 to 23; and the road levy passing 222 to 33. The road issue involved renewal of a 1.5 mill portion of a previous two-mill levy.

Each of the levies is to run for five years.

The police levy is to raise an estimated \$40,000 annually to finance operation of the township's three-man police force. The force was created after the levy was first approved by township voters three years ago.

According to township sources, the ambulance levy will produce about \$13,300 yearly. Two fulltime attendants man the service with help from the township's fire department. It was also launched three years ago.

The 1.5 mill levy for roads is to yield an estimated \$60,000 yearly or about \$400,000 during its five-year life. Township officials have said some 25 projects, involving an estimated \$400,000 are awaiting action.

Hoffacker said not all of the 259 voters cast ballots for each of the issues, making the individual issue totals lower than the total number that voted.



MICHIGAN APPLES FOR MAYOR DALEY: Fruit trees are in bloom in southwestern Michigan and the area's fairest goodwill ambassadors visited Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley Monday to present him Michigan Flavorbest apples. From left: Missy Young, Watervliet, first runnerup in Blossom pageant; Miss

Blossomtime, Deborah Zemke, Bridgman; Mayor Daley, and Jill Herman, second runnerup, Benton Harbor. Southwestern Michigan's entire court of 28 community queens was to visit patients at Great Lakes Naval hospital today. Week-long Blossom Festival starts April 29. (AP Wirephoto)

River Valley Votes 5-2 School Approved As Lottery Site

THREE OAKS — Permission to use River Valley high school as an alternate site to hold a state lottery drawing scheduled to be held here June 14 was granted last night by the school board.

The weekly lottery drawing is scheduled in Three Oaks during week-long activities climaxing with the 20th annual Flag day parade June 17. The observance is sponsored by American Legion Post 204 of Three Oaks.

James Boughner, represent-

ing the Flag day committee, explained to the board that first choice for the lottery drawing is St. Mary's parish hall in Three Oaks. However, he said, if this is not acceptable to state officials, the committee wanted approval for use of the high school as an alternate site.

Board approval came on a 5-2 vote with Adrian VanGinhoven and Mrs. Doris Rice casting negative votes. Mrs. Rice explained that she personally was not opposed to use of school facilities, but that she

didn't feel the majority of school district residents would approve.

Voting for the measure were George Lozman, William Haussmann, Dixie Pinkston, Jay Sexton and Roger Sievert.

In other action, Supt. Harold Sauser reported the high school had been accredited again this year by North Central Association of Secondary Schools.

The board voted to renew a heating maintenance contract with Honeywell corporation for 1973-74, at a cost of \$2,541, an

increase of \$341 over present contract.

Action on installation of a gravel wall well at the New Troy Campus was deferred, pending more information.

Due to the Memorial day observance falling on May 28, date of second regular ay meeting, the board voted to change the meeting date to Tuesday, May 29, at 8 p.m.

One year leaves of absence were granted to Susan Bender, fifth grade at Three Oaks, and Lois Sommer, New Troy

elementary; and six months leave to Donna Heckathorn, Three Oaks special education teacher.

The board accepted the resignation of Kenneth Myers, head custodian at Three Oaks, who is retiring July 1, after 27 years, and William Watkins, custodian at Three Oaks, retiring after five years.

Jay Sexton was elected voting delegate and William Haussmann alternate for the intermediate school district board election June 4.



GOP GET-TOGETHER: U.S. Rep. Edward Hutchinson, left, Mrs. N. Lorraine Beebe, executive director of Michigan Council of Consumer Affairs, and state Rep. DeForrest Strang (Sturgis) meet at Cass GOP Lincoln Day dinner in Cassopolis last night. Mrs. Beebe, keynote speaker, called on Republicans to live up to principles of Lincoln. (Staff photo)

ponents of the measure.

The women's commission is now studying possible changes in Michigan law to improve the legal status of women, she stat-

ed. She said the commission's lawyers (all women) hope to have proposals for changes ready for release in July.

Present at the dinner besides

county and township officials were U. S. Rep. Edward Hutchinson (St. Joseph) and state Rep. DeForrest Strang (Sturgis).

Schaefer said the number of students enrolled in each grade

Van Buren Official Denies 'Time' Suit

PAW PAW — Van Buren Prosecutor William Buhl denied yesterday that he presently plans court action, individually or as part of a group, to keep the county or any other counties on Eastern Standard Time.

Buhl made his statement following a Saturday news dispatch in a Kalamazoo newspaper which said that Buhl and prosecuting attorneys in Cass and Berrien counties will join in such an action.

In a press release, Buhl termed the report "erroneous" and said that he has not been consulted in his official capacity about such action the county might

take or want to take.

He said that the report apparently was the product of a news conference held by Berrien County Commissioner Carl Gnodtke.

"Neither Gnodtke nor anyone else has approached me about such action and none is being taken as of this time," Buhl added.

The three county boards of commissioners have asked the U. S. Department of Transportation to be transferred to the Central Time Zone.

Cook Plant

Sports Equipment To Be Displayed

BRIDGMAN — Camping, boating, fishing and other outdoor sports equipment will be on display Saturday and Sunday, April 28-29 at the Cook Nuclear center, Bridgman.

The show at the Indiana and Michigan Electric company facility will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Equipment to be on display includes campers, travel trailers, canoes, fishing boats and tackle. The show is to include products of 12 area merchants, according to an I&M statement.

EARLY CROP

Workers Are Needed To Pick Asparagus

The mild weather of recent weeks has set the asparagus harvest in motion at least two weeks ahead of normal, and there are not enough workers on hand to harvest the early spears.

Mrs. Amelia D. Scherer, manager of the rural manpower office at Scottsdale, said her office has openings for 125 people immediately to help with harvest and for 5 to 10 tractor operators.

Persons or family groups interested in job assignments should contact the office between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily, Monday through Friday.

She said the asparagus is developing at least two weeks ahead of normal and perhaps as much as three weeks. Migrant workers who normally come to Michigan early to pick asparagus have not arrived yet, she explained.